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Applicant: Bin Zhao
Serial No.: 09/876,368
Filed: June 07, 2001
Title: INTERLEAVER USING
SPATIAL BIREFRINGENT
ELEMENTS
Examiner: Curtis, Craig.
Group Art Unit: 2872
Atty Docket No.: 12569-03/NEC

PATENT

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7680
Newport Beach, CA 92660-6441
October 1, 2002

Commissioner:

In response to the initial Office Action dated July 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified Patent Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraph 79 and substitute therefor the following:

A1
[0079] Although examples discussed above utilize equivalent birefringent filter element angles of 45°, -21° and 7° and utilize phase delays of Γ , 2Γ and 2Γ , those skilled in the art will appreciate that various other angles and phase delays are likewise suitable. For example, phase delays of Γ , 2Γ and Γ may alternatively be utilized.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

- A2
- I. (Amended) An interleaver comprising:
- an input polarization beam displacer;
 - a birefringent filter assembly in optical communication with the input polarization beam displacer, the birefringent filter assembly comprising at least one birefringent filter stage, each birefringent filter stage comprising:
 - a first filter polarization beam displacer;
 - a second filter polarization beam displacer;